



(19) Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 1 052 899 B1

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention  
of the grant of the patent:  
**17.04.2002 Bulletin 2002/16**

(51) Int Cl.7: **A01N 25/00, A01N 37/44,**  
**C05G 3/02**

(21) Application number: **99907499.0**

(86) International application number:  
**PCT/EP99/00740**

(22) Date of filing: **04.02.1999**

(87) International publication number:  
**WO 99/39576 (12.08.1999 Gazette 1999/32)**

(54) Enhancement of metal molluscicides by ethylene diamine disuccinic acid (EDDS)

Verstärkung von Metall-Molluskiziden durch Ethylenediamindibernsteinsäure (EDDS)

Amélioration de molluscicides à l'aide d'un acide éthylènediamino-disuccinique (EDDS)

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU NL  
PT SE**  
Designated Extension States:  
**SI**

(30) Priority: **05.02.1998 US 73827 P**

(43) Date of publication of application:  
**22.11.2000 Bulletin 2000/47**

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- DATABASE CROPU STN-International STN-accession no. 90-84412, I.F.HENDERSON ET AL.: "Control of Slugs with Contact-Action Molluscicides" XP002105433 & ANN.APPL..BIOL., vol. 116, no. 2, 1990, pages 273-278,
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**D**escription

## FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 [0001] This invention relates to pest control compounds and, more particularly, to compositions effective to control pest molluscs by enhancing the effectiveness of metal poison absorption in molluscs.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 [0002] Terrestrial pulmonate gastropods such as slugs and snails are significant plant pests that affect commercial agriculture and horticulture and domestic gardens. These organisms are omnivorous and consume large amounts of vegetative material during their daily foraging. Consequently, they can seriously damage vegetable gardens and even plant crops during all phases of the growing cycle. Because of their destructive potential, control measures must be used to ensure adequate protection of the growing plants.

15 [0003] Aquatic molluscs, including the fresh water snails *Bulinus* sp., *Bulinus*, *Biomphalaria*, and *Oncomeania*, and vectors of parasitic worms (e.g., *Schistosoma*), are also pests. Aquatic molluscs are controlled by a number of synthetic and botanical compounds.

[0004] Terrestrial pulmonate gastropods and aquatic molluscs are collectively referred to herein as "molluscs."

20 [0005] A wide variety of approaches have been used to combat pest molluscs. Perhaps the most common is the use of poisonous compounds called molluscicides. Molluscicides encompass a diverse group of chemical compounds including table salt (NaCl), calcium arsenate, copper sulfate and metaldehyde. Molluscicides, depending upon their mode of action, fall into two major groups: (1) contact poisons or (2) ingested poisons. As a contact poison, the molluscicides must come into physical contact with the exterior of the mollusc, either by external application or as a result of the mollusc traversing the bait on the ground. The poison is picked up by the proteinaceous slime coat of the mollusc and builds up in the mollusc's body until it reaches lethal proportions. One of the major drawbacks of contact -type molluscicides is that they have little effect if the molluscs are not physically touched by the chemical. Slugs or snails will be unaffected if they are hidden or migrate into an area after application of a contact molluscicide.

25 [0006] One of the few compounds that acts as both a contact and ingested poison is metaldehyde. This compound is commonly used as a long lasting bait, attracting the molluscs and killing them after ingestion of the compound. Despite its high effectiveness and its commercial popularity, metaldehyde is toxic to higher mammals and is a major contributor to domestic animal poisoning in the U.S. and Europe.

30 [0007] Heavy metals, including zinc, aluminum, copper and iron are all toxic to molluscs and are known to be effective molluscicides when used as contact poisons in the form of salts or chelates (Henderson, et al. 1990). Few of them, however, have been successful commercially, perhaps because many such compounds are not palatable to molluscs and are not ingested in sufficient quantities to be effective. More recently, Henderson et al. (UK Patent Application 2 207 866A, 1988) discovered that specific complexes of aluminum with pentanedione compounds and iron with nitroso compounds would act both as ingested and contact poisons.

35 [0008] U.S. Patent No. 5,437,870 (Puritch et al) discloses an ingestible mollusc poison having a carrier (e.g., a bait), a simple iron compound and a second component. The second component can be ethylene diamine tetracetic acid (EDTA), salts of EDTA, hydroxyethylene triamine diacetic acid, (HEDTA) or salts of HEDTA. Australian Patent Application No. 77420/98 also discloses a stomach-action molluscicide that includes a metal complexone (i.e., iron EDTA) and a carrier.

40 [0009] With the metal-based ingested poisons, the slug must eat and absorb the poison in large enough amounts to reach a lethal threshold. These compounds are much more difficult to formulate and use than are contact poisons, because the compounds are not always palatable to the slug. To be effective, these compounds must be ingested and digested within the mollusc digestive tract in sufficiently high levels to cause a pesticidal effect. However, the activity of such molluscicides must be slow enough acting to prevent the slug from prematurely becoming sick and to cease feeding on the poison before a lethal dose is ingested. (Henderson and Perker, 1986.) Many of the contact poisons (e.g., aluminum sulfate, copper sulfate, borax, etc.) are useless as ingested poisons because of their deterrence to slugs.

45 [0010] DE 195 18 150 A1 discloses a microbiological process for preparing (S,S)-EDDSA which has good complex forming properties and is biodegradable. This compound is suggested to be a more suitable complex forming agent in household washing compositions than EDTA and NTA as these latter two are only slowly biodegraded.

50 [0011] JP 53 038624 A discloses a pesticidal composition useable against slugs which contains triallyl isocyanurate.

55 [0012] WO 89 01287 A discloses the use as molluscicide of a chelate of aluminium (III) with a ligand of formula  $[R^1COCHCOCR^2]$  ( $R^1$  and  $R^2$  = methyl, ethyl, propyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, dimethoxymethyl or diethoxymethyl) or of iron (III) with a ligand of formula  $[R^3NO.N=O]$  ( $R^3$  = 1-6C alkyl which is branched when it contains more than 4C).

[0013] KHIM.SEL.KHOZ., vol. 23, no. 8, 1985, page 15-22 relates to the use of microelement fertilisers containing

Fe, Co, Zn, Mn, Mo, Mg, Cu and B for increasing the total sugar, protein, starch, fat and vitamin content and yield of various crops. The microelements were frequently used with, amongst others, EDDSA, ethylene diamine disuccinic acid. There is no mention of a carrier material edible to molluscs being used.

**[0014]** It would thus be desirable to provide a composition that will enhance absorption of stomach-action mollusc poisons without deterring ingestion of the poison by molluscs.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

**[0015]** The invention provides a mollusc stomach poison composition that comprises a simple metal compound, an additive that enhances the activity and absorption of the metal, and a carrier material that is edible to molluscs. The composition is effective to kill molluscs upon being ingested by the mollusc.

**[0016]** The simple metal compound may include metals selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, zinc, aluminum, and mixtures thereof. The term "iron" as used herein is understood to refer to both the ferric and ferrous forms of iron. The activity enhancing additive is a compound selected from the group consisting of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof. The carrier material is one that is edible to molluscs, and it preferably is a mollusc food.

**[0017]** In another embodiment the composition comprises a metal complex of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid or isomers thereof. Metals from which the complex can be formed include iron, copper, zinc, and aluminum.

**[0018]** In another embodiment the mollusc poison composition may also include a co-active ingredient, such as metaldehyde. In yet another embodiment the composition may include or be used with a fertilizer compound, such as a granular fertilizer.

**[0019]** As used herein, the term "mollusc" refers to both terrestrial and aquatic molluscs.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

**[0020]** The present invention provides a composition that is an ingestible mollusc poison. In one embodiment, the composition includes a simple metal compound, an activity-enhancing additive which is believed to increase the efficacy of the metal compound, and a carrier that is edible to molluscs. Additional formulation enhancing additives may be included as well. Examples of such compounds include pH-adjusting compounds, preservatives, anti-microbial agents, phagostimulants, and taste-altering additives.

**[0021]** The simple metal compound can be one that includes metals such as iron, copper, zinc, aluminum or mixtures thereof. Such a compound may be reduced elemental iron, metal proteins (e.g., iron proteins, copper proteins, zinc proteins, aluminum proteins), metal salts (e.g., iron salts, copper salts, zinc salts, aluminum salts and mixtures thereof), metal carbohydrates (e.g., iron carbohydrates, copper carbohydrates, zinc carbohydrates, aluminum carbohydrates and mixtures thereof). Specific examples of such compounds include iron acetate, iron chloride, iron phosphate, iron phosphate/sodium citrate mixture, sodium iron phosphate, iron pyrophosphate, iron nitrate, iron ammonium sulfate, iron albuminate, iron sulfate, iron sulfide, iron choline citrate, iron glycerol phosphate, iron citrate, iron ammonium citrate, iron fumarate, iron gluconate, iron lactate, iron saccharate, iron fructate, iron dextrose, iron succinate, iron tartrate, copper acetate, copper chloride, copper phosphate, copper pyrophosphate, copper nitrate, copper ammonium sulfate, copper albuminate, copper sulfate, copper gluconate, copper lactate, copper saccharate, copper fructose, copper dextrose, zinc acetate, zinc chloride, zinc phosphate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc nitrate, zinc ammonium sulfate, zinc albuminate, zinc sulfate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc saccharate, zinc fructate, zinc dextrose, aluminum acetate, aluminum chloride, aluminum phosphate, aluminum pyrophosphate, aluminum nitrate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, aluminum albuminate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum gluconate, aluminum lactate, aluminum saccharate, aluminum fructose, and aluminum dextrose. It is understood that the term "iron" as used herein refers to both the ferric and ferrous forms of this element.

**[0022]** As noted above, the activity enhancing additive is one that improves the efficacy of the metal compound by enhancing the digestive absorption of the metal. A preferred activity enhancing additive is ethylene diamine disuccinic acid (EDDS), in both its naturally occurring and synthetic forms. Further, the activity enhancing additive may be in the form of isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof.

**[0023]** Activity enhancing additives such as EDDS, its isomers, and its derivatives, are believed to contribute to the rapid absorption of the simple metal compound from the mollusc digestive tract into the internal organs of the animal. This results in rapid, irreversible destruction of the cellular integrity of the mollusc which prevents continuing feeding on plant material, eventually leading to death. EDDS is believed to affect parts of the mollusc digestive system by allowing the metal to be more freely and quickly dispersed throughout the mollusc body. The result of such overload of metal results in pathological distress to the mollusc system.

- [0024] EDDS is a hexadentate ligand that occurs naturally and which is produced by a number of microorganisms including the actinomycete, *Amycolatopsis japonicum* sp. nov. (Nishikori et al. J. Antibiot. 37:426-427 (1994); Goodfellow et al, *Systematics and Applied Microbiology* 20:78-84 (1997). The molecular formula for this compound is C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for the acid and C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Na<sub>3</sub> for the trisodium salt. The acid has a molecular mass of 292.25 while the trisodium salt is 358.19. The compound can occur in three stereoisomers, [R,R], [R,S/S,R], and [S,S]. EDDS can also be synthesized by a reaction of L-aspartic acid and 1,2-dihaloethane, as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,554,791.
- [0025] EDDS has been developed commercially as a trisodium salt compound sold under the trademark Octaquest® E-30 by the Associated Octel Company Ltd. This compound has the ability to complex with metals to serve as a chelator. It has the advantage of easily biodegrading and does not persist in the environment (Schowanek et al., *Chemosphere* 34:2375-2391 (1997)). Hence, it has been proposed for use as a surfactant in laundry detergents as disclosed in U. S. Patent No. 4,704,233.
- [0026] Useful salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid that may serve as an activity enhancing additive according to the present invention include alkali metal salts, alkali earth salts, ammonium salts and substituted ammonium salts of this compound, as well as mixtures thereof. Preferred salts include the sodium, potassium, and ammonium salts.
- [0027] The activity enhancing additive may also be in the form of metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid. Examples of such complexes include iron EDDS complexes, as well as copper, zinc, and aluminum complexes of EDDS. In one embodiment, the composition may be used without a simple metal compound as a separate component. Instead, the compound can be used in the form of a metal complex of EDDS, with metals selected from iron, copper, zinc, and aluminum.
- [0028] Suitable carrier materials are those that are edible to molluscs. Mollusc foods are an example of a preferred type of carrier material. Examples of suitable mollusc food carriers include wheat flour, wheat cereal, agar, gelatin, oil cake, pet food wheat, soya, oats, corn, citrus mash, rice, fruits, fish by-products, sugars, coated vegetable seeds, coated cereal seeds, casein, blood meal, bone meal, yeast, fats, beer products, and mixtures thereof. Examples of particularly useful mollusc foods include a bone meal - wheat flour mixture having a ratio of bone meal to wheat flour in the range of 50:50 to 90:10 and one formed from wheat flour and sugar at a ratio of wheat flour to sugar in the range of about 90:10 to 95:5.
- [0029] Other compounds, as noted above, may be added to the composition as formulation enhancing additives. Such compounds include preservatives or anti-microbial agents, phagostimulants, waterproofing agents, taste altering additives, and pH-adjusting additives.
- [0030] Exemplary preservatives include Legend MK®, available from Rohm & Hass Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and CA-24, available from Dr. Lehmann and Co. of Memmingen/Allgäu, Germany. Preservatives such as these can normally be mixed with water to form a stock solution to be added to the formulation at a concentration in the range of about 10-750 ppm.
- [0031] Phagostimulants can be added to the composition to attract molluscs and to induce molluscs to feed upon the composition. A variety of phagostimulants can be used, including sugars, yeast products, and casein. Sugars, such as sucrose, are among the more preferred phagostimulants. These additives are normally incorporated within the composition in a dry form. Typically, they can be added to the composition at about 1 to 2.5% by weight of the total composition.
- [0032] Waterproofing agents, which can also act as binders, can be added to the composition to improve the weatherability of the composition. These are typically water insoluble compounds such as waxy materials and other hydrocarbons. Examples of suitable waterproofing agents are paraffin wax, stearate salts, beeswax, and similar compounds. One preferred wax compound is PAROWAX®, available from Conros Corp. of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada. Waterproofing agents can be incorporated into the composition in dry form, at about 5 to 12% by weight of the total composition.
- [0033] It is also desirable to include within the composition taste altering compounds that render the composition unpalatable to animals, such as humans and pets. Exemplary compositions include those having a bitter taste. One such compound is commercially available as BITREX® from McFarlane Smith Ltd. of Edinburgh, Scotland. These compounds typically are added at a very low concentration. For example, a 0.1% BITREX solution can be added to the composition at about 1 to 2 % by weight of the total composition.
- [0034] Useful pH-affecting additives include calcium carbonate, potassium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, ascorbic acid, tartaric acid, and citric acid. Such additives may be used at a concentration in the range of about 0.2 to 5.0% by wt., and they should be effective to adjust the pH to within a range of about 5 to 9.
- [0035] The molar ratio of the metal in the simple metal compound to the activity enhancing additive may be in the range of about 1:0.02 to 1:58. More preferably, this ratio is in the range of 1:0.3 to 1:12. Further, the metal in the simple metal compound may be present at a concentration range of about 200 to 20,000 ppm (0.02 to 2.0% by weight) while the activity enhancing additive may be present at a concentration in the range of about 2,000 to 60,000 ppm (0.2 to 6.0% by weight of the composition). One exemplary concentration range is about 0.1 to 0.5% by wt. of the composition for the metal and about 0.8 to 6.0% by wt. for the EDDS component.

[0036] Where the composition is used without a simple metal compound, i.e., in the form of a metal complex of EDDS, the metal complex can be present at 5000 to 90,000 ppm (0.5 to 9.0 % by wt.).

5 [0037] In one embodiment the composition may also include a co-active molluscicidal agent. One such co-active molluscicidal agent is metaldehyde. Other potential co-active molluscicidal agents include methiocarb, carbaryl, isolan, mexcarbate, niclosamide, trifenmorph, carbofuran, anarcardic acid, and plant-derived saponins. Such co-active ingredients may be added to the composition at a concentration in the range of about 0.2 to 5.0% by wt.

10 [0038] In yet another embodiment the composition may also include a fertilizer, such as virtually any plant fertilizer. Suitable fertilizers typically are granular and an example of one useful fertilizer is Ironite®, available from Ironite Products Company of Scottsdale, Arizona. When present, fertilizers may be used at a concentration in the range of about 0.5 to 10.0% by weight of the composition.

15 [0039] The composition of the invention typically is used in dry form and many of the constituent ingredients of the composition are included in dry form. However, it is often useful to include a sufficient amount of water within the composition to form a dough so that the ingredients can be more easily blended. Water is typically added at a concentration of about 15 to 60% by weight of the total composition. Water, however, typically is driven off by heating and drying the molluscicidal bait before it is used. The composition may also be formulated as a liquid, especially where the composition utilizes a metal complex of EDDS.

20 [0040] As noted above, the composition of the present invention is typically used in a dry, spreadable form such as powders, granules, cubes, or pellets. The composition may be spread on or around areas infested by molluscs as well as in areas in which mollusc infestation is to be prevented. When used to combat aquatic molluscs the composition can simply be added to the environment inhabited by the molluscs.

25 [0041] To prepare the composition, a suitable amount of the simple metal compound and the activity enhancing additive can be blended in dry form, with a dry carrier material. Thereafter, other dry ingredients (such as phagostimulants and waterproofing agents) are blended and mixed with the bait. Next, suitable amounts of liquid additives (such as preservatives, taste altering additives and water) are added to the dry mixture to form a dough. The bait can be covered, such as with a plastic wrap, and heated. One preferred heating technique is by heating in a microwave oven for 30 seconds to 10 minutes. After heating, the dough can be processed in a food grinder to obtain strands of the molluscicidal composition. This material is then dried, at elevated or ambient temperatures, and it can be made into a desired form, such as powder, pellets or granules.

30 [0042] One exemplary molluscicidal composition can be prepared as follows. First, metal compounds, e.g. iron carbohydrate or iron salts, are dry blended into a cereal flour (wheat) at between 1000 to 20,000ppm metal wt/wt. Dry EDDS, or its sodium salt, is then added to the flour on a molar level to the amount of iron added. This level can vary in the range of a metal: EDDS molar ratio in the range of about 1:0.02 to 1:58 ratio. The EDDS is added to the mixture while continually stirring. Other ingredients can be added to the mixture, such as, anti-microbials (Legend®), waterproofing agents, and phagostimulants (e.g., sugar). Water soluble additives are dissolved in water and then the water is blended into the dry wheat/iron compounds plus EDDS mixture. The dough is thoroughly mixed in a grinding device and extruded in the form of noodles. The resultant bait is dried at 40 degrees Celsius for 24 hours before testing.

35 [0043] The metal complexes can be synthesized by combining virtually any soluble metal compound, such as ferrous sulfate, with soluble EDDS or virtually any soluble derivative of EDDS. Following this combination, the pH can be adjusted (e.g., in the range of about 5 to 9) with a suitable agent such as a concentrated solution of potassium hydroxide.

40 Exemplary metal compounds include reduced elemental iron, metal proteins (e.g., iron proteins, copper proteins, zinc proteins, aluminum proteins), metal salts (e.g., iron salts, copper salts, zinc salts, aluminum salts and mixtures thereof), metal carbohydrates (e.g., iron carbohydrates, copper carbohydrates, zinc carbohydrates, aluminum carbohydrates and mixtures thereof). Specific examples of such compounds include iron acetate, iron chloride, iron phosphate, iron phosphate/sodium citrate mixture, sodium iron phosphate, iron pyrophosphate, iron nitrate, iron ammonium sulfate, iron sulfide, iron albuminate, iron choline citrate, iron glycerol phosphate, iron citrate, iron ammonium citrate, iron fumarate, iron gluconate, iron lactate, iron saccharate, iron fructate, iron dextrate, iron succinate, iron tartrate, copper acetate, copper chloride, copper phosphate, copper pyrophosphate, copper nitrate, copper ammonium sulfate, copper albuminate, copper sulfate, copper gluconate, copper lactate, copper saccharate, copper fructate, copper dextrate, zinc acetate, zinc chloride, zinc phosphate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc nitrate, zinc ammonium sulfate, zinc albuminate, zinc sulfate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc saccharate, zinc fructate, zinc dextrate, aluminum acetate, aluminum chloride, aluminum phosphate, aluminum pyrophosphate, aluminum nitrate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, aluminum albuminate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum gluconate, aluminum lactate, aluminum saccharate, aluminum fructate, and aluminum dextrate. Exemplary derivatives of EDDS include isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, including alkali earth, alkali metal, ammonium, substituted ammonium, mixtures of these salts, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof.

55 [0044] The following non-limiting examples serve to further illustrate the present invention.

**Example 1**

[0045] A tub test was set up with 20 *Derooceras reticulatum* and two lettuce plants per tub with three tubs per iron treatment and two tubs for controls. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
iron p/EDDS	DSA14/79/1 - 2800 ppm iron as iron phosphate plus 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
Control	R4/118/1 - Control bait made with flour and sugar (94:6)*

\* Unless otherwise noted, controls made with flour and sugar contain 94 parts flour and 6 parts sugar.

[0046] The tubs were kept in the greenhouse during assessment period. Data was collected at three and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1.

Observations on mortality at 3 DAT*				
Treat.	REP1	REP2	REP3	
iron p/EDDS	7/20, bait readily eaten, very light plant feeding	6/20, 1 missing, bait readily eaten; very light plant feeding	7/20, bait readily eaten; no plant feeding	
Control	0/20, light plant feeding	1/20, light plant feeding	na	

\*DAT = Days After Treatment

Table 2.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT.				
Treat.	REP1	REP2	REP3	Total % Kill
iron p/EDDS	9/13, no more plant feeding	8/14 no more plant feeding	9/13 no more plant feeding	46/60, 76.7%
Control	2/20, heavy plant feeding	1/19, heavy plant feeding	na	4/40, 10.0%

**Example 2**

[0047] A tub test was set up with 15 *Derooceras reticulatum* and two lettuce plant per tub with two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Iron EDDS was synthesized from EDDS and iron chloride. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
iron EDDS 2000	R4/122/1 - 2000 ppm iron as iron EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
iron EDDS 2400	R4/122/2 - with 2400 ppm iron as iron EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
iron EDDS 2800	R4/122/3 with 2800 ppm iron as iron EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
Control	R4/118/1 - Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0048] The tubs were kept in the greenhouse during assessment period. Data was collected at three and six days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 3 and 4.

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Table 3.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT			
	Treat.	REP1	REP2
5	iron EDDS 2000	3/15, slight plant feeding	3/15, slight plant feeding
10	iron EDDS 2400	4/15, no plant feeding	11/15, no plant feeding
15	iron EDDS 2800	9/15, no plant feeding	6/15, slight plant feeding
20	Control	0/15	0/15

Table 4.

Observations on mortality at 6 DAT				
	Treat.	REP1	REP2	
			Total % Kill	
15	iron EDDS 2000	4/12	0/12	10/30, 33.3%
20	iron EDDS 2400	1/11	2/4	18/30, 60.0%
25	iron EDDS 2800	0/6	4/9	19/30, 63.3%
30	Control	0/15	0/15	0/30, 0%

### Example 3

[0049] A tub test was set up with 15 *Deroceras reticulatum*, two lettuce plant per tub and two tubs per treatment, except for the aluminum nitrate treatment which had one replicate of 22 slugs. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tubbs were kept outside during the duration of the experiment. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
10A	R4/123/1 - 2800 ppm Cu as Cu acetate and 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
10B	R4/123/2 - 2800 ppm Cu as Cu chloride and 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
10C	R4/123/3 - with 2800 ppm Cu as Cu oxide and 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
10D	R4/123/6 - 2800 ppm Zn as Zinc chloride and 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour
10E	R4/122/3 - with 2800 ppm iron as iron phosphate and 10,800 ppm EDDS
10F	R4/118/1 - Control bait made with flour and sugar
10G	R4/123/5 - with 2800 ppm A1 as A1 nitrate and 10,800 ppm EDDS, 6.0% sugar and balance of wheat flour

[0050] The tubs were kept in the greenhouse during assessment period. Data was collected at three and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 5 and 6.

Table 5.

Observations on mortality at 3 DAT			
	Treat.	REP1	REP2
50	10A	0/15, no plant feeding	2/15, no plant feeding
55	10B	0/15, both plants eaten	2/15, 1 plant eaten
	10C	1/15, medium plant feeding	1/15, light plant feeding
	10D	2/15, light plant feeding	2/15, light plant feeding
	10E	7/15, no plant feeding	5/17, no plant feeding

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Table 5. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 3 DAT			
Treat.	REP1		REP2
10F	1/15		0/15
10G	0/22, both plants eaten		na

Table 6.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
10A	3/15	3/11*	8/28, 28.6%
10B	0/15	1/13	3/30, 10.0%
10C	0/14	2/14	4/30, 13.3%
10D	3/13	1/13	8/30, 28.6%
10E	7/8	10/12	29/32, 90.1%
10F	0/14	1/15	2/30. 6.6%
10G	4/22	na	4/22, 18.2%

\* = 2 slugs missing

**Example 4**

[0051] A test tub was set up with two replicates per treatment of 10 *Arion ater*. Two lettuce plants were placed per tub. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 5 grams of bait. Tubbs were kept outside during the experimental period. The baits were made by dissolving the sodium EDDS and iron sugar in water, adding the flour and then adjusting the pH with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. Tubbs were kept outside during the duration of the experiment. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

8A	R4/139/1, 0.28% iron (iron sugar) + 1.08% NaEDDS, pH 7.33
8B	R4/139/2, 0.28% iron (iron sugar) + 1.08% NaEDDS, pH 8.45
8C	R4/139/3, 0.28% iron (iron sugar) + 1.08% NaEDDS, pH 9.53
8D	R4/139/4, 0.28% iron (iron sugar) + 1.08% NaEDDS, pH 10.5
8E	R4/139/5, 0.28% iron (iron sugar) + 1.08% NaEDDS, not premixed
8F	DSA/120/1, Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0052] The tubbs were kept outside during the assessment period. Data was collected at four and six days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 7 and 8.

Table 7.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT			
Treat.	REP1		REP2
8A	0/10, bait 55% gone, no plant feeding	1/10, bait 100% gone, no plant feeding	
8B	0/10, bait 100% gone, no plant feeding	0/10, bait 100% gone, medium plant feeding	
8C	0/10, bait 70% gone, heavy plant feeding	0/10, bait 100% gone, heavy plant feeding	
8D	0/10, bait 5.0% gone, heavy plant feeding	0/10, bait 5% gone, medium plant feeding	
8E	1/10, bait 100% gone, light plant feeding	0/10, bait 100% gone, medium plant feeding	

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Table 7. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT			
Treat.	REP1		REP2
8F	0/10		0/10

Table 8.

Observations on mortality at 6 DAT.				
Treat.	REP 1	REP2	Total % Kill	
8A	7/10	5/9	13/20, 65.0%	
8B	8/10	5/10	13/20, 65.0%	
8C	8/10	5/10	13/20, 65.0%	
8D	0/10	1/10	1/20, 5.0%	
8E	6/9	6/10	13/20, 65.0%	
8F	0/10	0/10	0/20, 0.0%	

## Example 5

[0053] A test tub was set up with two replicates per treatment of 10 *Arion ater*. One large cabbage plant was placed per tub. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field, and added to the tubs along with 5 grams of bait. Tubs were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

7A	R4/138/4, 2800 ppm iron as iron phosphate + 1.08% EDDS
7B	R4/140/1, 2800 ppm iron as iron phosphate + 2.5% EDDS
7C	R4/138/1, 4000 ppm iron as iron phosphate + 2.5% EDDS
7D	R4/138/2, 4500 ppm iron as iron phosphate + 2.5% EDDS
7E	DSA/120/1, Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0054] The tubs were kept outside during the assessment period. Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 9 and 10.

Table 9.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT			
Treat.	REP1		REP2
7A	2/10, no plant feeding, most bait gone		3/10, med plant feeding, lots bait left
7B	5/10, no plant feeding, most bait gone		5/10, light plant feeding, most bait gone
7C	5/10, heavy plant feeding, lots bait left		8/10; heavy plant feeding, some bait left
7D	7/10, no plant feeding, lots bait left		6/10, no plant feeding, lots bait left
7E	0/10		0/10

Table 10.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP 1	REP2	Total % Kill
7A	7/8	4/7	16/20, 80.0%

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Table 10. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Tr at.	REP 1	REP2	Total % Kill
7B	3/5	3/5	16/20, 80.0%
7C	3/5	1/2	17/20, 85.0%
7D	3/3	1/4	17/20, 85.0%
7E	0/10	0/10	0/20, 0.0%

**Example 6**

[0055] A standard tub test was set up with 15 *Deroceras reticulatum* and one lettuce plant per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tub were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
6A	R4/155/1, 0.28 % iron as iron phosphahate and 1.50 % EDDS
6B	R4/155/2, 0.28 % iron as iron phosphahate and 1.75 % EDDS
6C	R4/153/1, 0.28 % iron as iron phosphahate and 2.25 % EDDS
6D	R4/155/3, 0.28 % iron as iron phosphahate and 2.75 % EDDS
6E	R4/140/2, 0.28 % iron a as iron phosphahate and 3.00 % EDDS
6F	R4/120/1 Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0056] Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 11 and 12.

Table 11.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT		
Treat.	REP1	REP2
6A	2/15	1/15
6B	4/15	4/15
6C	2/15	0/15
6D	2/15	1/15
6E	1/15	1/15
6F	0/15	0/16

Table 12.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
6A	4/13	4/14	11/30, 36.7 %
6B	2/11	9/11	19/30, 63.3 %
6C	5/13	7/15	14/30, 46.7 %
6D	7/13	3/14	13/30, 43.3 %
6E	5/14	3/14	10/30, 33.3 %

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Table 12. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
6F	1/15	0/16	1/31, 3.3 %

**Example 7**

[0057] A standard tub test was set up with 15 *Deroceras reticulatum* and one lettuce plant per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tub were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
5A	R4/154/1, iron phosphate/EDDS in a 50:50 bait of bonemeal: flour
5B	R4/154/2, iron phosphate/EDDS in a 90:10 bait of bonemeal: flour
5C	R4/143/3 Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0058] Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 13 and 14.

Table 13.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	
5A	6/15	3/15	
5B	2/15	4/14**	
5C	0/15	0/15	

\*\* = 1 missing slug

Table 14.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
5A	7/9	8/12	24/30, 80.0 %
5B	5/13	7/10	18/29, 62.1%
5C	0/15	0/15	0/30, 0.0 %

**Example 8**

[0059] A standard tub test was set up with 15 *Deroceras reticulatum* and one lettuce plant per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tub were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
4A	R4/159/1, 0.28% iron as iron sugar with 2.25 % EDDS
4B	R4/159/2, 0.28% iron as iron gluconate with 2.25 % EDDS
4C	R4/159/3, iron phosphate plus 2.25 % EDDS plus 0.5 % sodium gluconate

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(continued)

Cod	Bait
4D	R4/159/4, iron phosphate plus 2.25 % EDDS plus 0.5 % calcium citrate
4E	R4/153/1, iron phosphate plus 2.25 % EDDS
4F	R4/143/3 Control bait made with flour and sugar

10 [0060] Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables  
15 and 16.

Table 15.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT		
Treat.	REP1	REP2
4A	8/15	5/15
4B	2/15	2/15
4C	1/15	1/15
4D	0/15	1/15
4E	5/15	2/15
4F	0/15	0/15

Table 16.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
4A	4/7	5/10	23/30, 76.7 %
4B	5/13	9/13	18/30, 60.0 %
4C	1/14	3/13, 1 missing	6/29, 20.7 %
4D	6/15	4/14	11/30, 36.7 %
4E	3/10	na	7/15, 46.7 %
4F	0/15	0/15	0/30, 0.0 %

40 Example 9

45 [0061] A standard tub test was set up with 10 *Arion ater* and one lettuce plant per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 6 grams of bait and two cabbage plants. Tubbs were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
3A	R4/161/1, 0.28% iron as iron sugar with 2.25 % EDDS
3B	R4/161/6, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS
3C	R4/161/4, 0.28% iron as iron EDDS made from iron lactate
3D	R4/156/1, 0.28% iron as iron EDDS made from iron sulfate
3E	R4/143/3 Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0062] Data was collected at six days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tabl 17.

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Table 17.

Observations on mortality at 6 DAT				
	Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
5	3A	10/10, no plant feeding	7/10, very light plant feeding	17/20, 85.0 %
	3B	9/10, very light plant feeding	6/10, light plant feeding	15/20, 75.0 %
	3C	3/10, no plant feeding	3/10, no plant feeding	6/20, 30.0 %
10	3D	4/10, no plant feeding	1/10, no plant feeding	5/20, 25.0 %
	3E	0/10	0/10	0/20, 0.0 %

**Example 10**

[0063] A standard tub test was set up with 15 *Deroceras reticulatum* and two lettuce plants per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tub were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
2A	R4/164/2, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS at pH 3.58
2B	R4/167/1, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS at pH 5.54
2C	R4/167/2, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS at pH 7.34
2D	R4/167/3, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS at pH 9.30
2E	R4/167/4, 0.28% iron as iron sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS at pH 9.78
2F	R4/162/2, 0.28% iron as iron phosphate with 2.25 % EDDS
2G	R4/162/1 Control bait made with flour and sugar

[0064] Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 18 and 19.

Table 18.

Observations on mortality at 4 DAT				
	Treat.	REP1	REP2	
40	2A	6/16, no plant feeding	6/16, no plant feeding	
45	2B	5/15, no plant feeding	7/15, no plant feeding	
50	2C	5/15, no plant feeding	6/15, no plant feeding	
	2D	5/15, no plant feeding	4/15, no plant feeding	
	2E	2/15, no plant feeding	1/15, no plant feeding	
	2F	1/15, no plant feeding	2/15, light plant feeding	
	2G	0/15	0/15	

Table 19.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT				
	Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill
55	2A	6/10	8/10	26/30, 86.7 %

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Table 19. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT				
Treat.	REP1	REP2	Total % Kill	
2B	7/10	7/8	26/30, 86.7 %	
2C	8/10	7/9	26/30, 86.7 %	
2D	4/10	7/11	20/30, 66.7 %	
2E	5/13	7/14	15/30, 50.0 %	
2F	7/14	8/13	18/30, 60.0 %	
2G	0/15	0/15	0/30, 0.0 %	

15    **Example 11**

[0065] A standard tub test was set up with 15 *Derooceras reticulatum* and one lettuce and one cabbage plant per tub and two tubs per treatment. Compost soil was used to cover the tub bottoms. Slugs were collected from the field and added to the tubs along with 2 grams of bait. Tub were kept outside during the experimental period. Baits of the type noted in the table below were made the day prior to use.

Code	Bait
1A	R4/170/1, 0.28% iron as Fe II sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS
1B	R4/170/2, 0.15% iron as Fe II sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS
1C	R4/164/2, 0.28% iron as Fe III sulfate with 2.25 % EDDS
1D	R4/170/3, 0.28% iron as iron sugar (10%) with 2.5 % EDDS
1E	R4/161/1, 0.28% iron as iron sugar (20%) with 2.5 % EDDS
1F	R4/162/2, 0.28% iron as Fe III phosphate with 2.25 % EDDS
1G	R4/162/1 Control bait made with flour and sugar

35    [0066] Data was collected at four and seven days after treatment, and the results obtained are shown below in Tables 20 and 21.

Table 20.

Observations on mortality and plant feeding at 4 DAT		
Treat.	REP1	REP2
1A	3/15, no plant feeding	3/15, no plant feeding
1B	2/15, no plant feeding	3/15, no plant feeding
1C	3/15, no plant feeding	1/15, no plant feeding
1D	3/15, no plant feeding	5/15, no plant feeding
1E	5/15, no plant feeding	4/15, no plant feeding
1F	2/15, no plant feeding	1/15, no plant feeding
1G	0/15	0/15

Table 21.

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	KEP1	REP2	Total % Kill
1A	9/12	7/12	22/30, 73.3 %

Table 21. (continued)

Observations on mortality at 7 DAT			
Treat.	KEP1	REP2	Total % Kill
1B	9/13	7/12	21/30, 70.0 %
1C	10/12	11/14	25/30, 83.3 %
1D	11/12	8/10	27/30, 90.0 %
1E	8/10	6/11	23/30, 76.7 %
1F	6/13	5/14	14/30, 46.7 %
1G	0/15	1/15	1/30, 3.3 %

15 [0067] Unless otherwise noted, all percentages by weight are percent of the total composition.

### Claims

20 1. A mollusc stomach poison composition, comprising:

a simple metal compound, including metals selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, zinc aluminum and mixtures thereof;  
 25 an activity enhancing additive selected from the group consisting of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof; and  
 a carrier material edible to molluscs,

30 the mollusc stomach poison being effective to kill molluscs upon ingestion by molluscs.

35 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the salt of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid is selected from the group consisting essentially of alkali metal salts, alkali earth salts, ammonium salts, substituted ammonium salts, and mixtures thereof.

40 3. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a molluscicidal co-active ingredient.

45 4. The composition of claim 3, wherein the molluscicidal co-active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of metaldehyde, methiocarb, carbaryl, isolan, mexcarbate, mercaptodimethur, niclosamide, trifenmorph, carbofuran, anarcadic acid, plant-derived saponins, and mixtures thereof.

50 5. The composition of claim 1, further comprising a pH-adjusting agent.

55 6. The composition of claim 5, wherein the pH-adjusting agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, potassium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, ascorbic acid, tartaric acid, and citric acid.

7. The composition of claim 5, wherein the pH is in the range of about 5 to 9.

8. The composition of claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the metal to the bait additive is in the range of about 1:0.02 to 1:58.

9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the metal is present in the simple metal compound at a concentration in the range of about 200 to 20,000 ppm.

10. The composition of claim 1, wherein the activity enhancing additive is present at a concentration in the range of about 0.2 to 6.0 percent by wt. of the composition.

11. The composition of claim 1, wherein the carrier is a mollusc food.

12. The composition of claim 11, wherein the mollusc food is selected from the group consisting of wheat flour, wheat cereal, agar, gelatin, oil cake, pet food wheat, soya, oats, corn, citrus mash, rice, fruits, fish by-products, sugars, coated vegetable seeds, coated cereal seeds, casein, blood meal, bone meal, yeast, fats, beer products, and mixtures thereof.

5        13. The composition of claim 11, wherein the mollusc food is a bone meal - wheat flour mixture having a ratio of bone meal to wheat flour in the range of 50:50 to 90:10.

10      14. The composition of claim 1, wherein the simple metal compound is selected from the group consisting of reduced elemental iron, iron proteins, iron salts, iron carbohydrates, copper proteins, copper salts, copper carbohydrates, zinc proteins, zinc salts, zinc carbohydrates, aluminum proteins, aluminum salts, aluminum carbohydrates, and mixtures thereof.

15      15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the simple metal compound is selected from the group consisting of iron acetate, iron chloride, iron phosphate, iron phosphate/sodium citrate mixture, sodium iron phosphate, iron pyrophosphate, iron nitrate, iron ammonium sulfate, iron albuminate, iron sulfate, iron sulfide, iron choline citrate, iron glycerol phosphate, iron citrate, iron ammonium citrate, iron fumarate, iron gluconate, iron lactate, iron saccharate, iron fructate, iron dextrose, iron succinate, iron tartrate, copper acetate, copper chloride, copper phosphate, copper pyrophosphate, copper nitrate, copper ammonium sulfate, copper albuminate, copper sulfate, copper gluconate, copper lactate, copper saccharate, copper fructate, copper dextrose, zinc acetate, zinc chloride, zinc phosphate, zinc pyrophosphate, zinc nitrate, zinc ammonium sulfate, zinc albuminate, zinc sulfate, zinc gluconate, zinc lactate, zinc saccharate, zinc fructate, zinc dextrose, aluminum acetate, aluminum chloride, aluminum phosphate, aluminum pyrophosphate, aluminum nitrate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, aluminum albuminate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum gluconate, aluminum lactate, aluminum saccharate, aluminum fructate, and aluminum dextrose.

25      16. A composition, comprising:

a fertilizer material; and  
 an environmentally compatible molluscicidal composition, including  
 30      a simple metal compound, having metals selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, zinc or aluminum and mixtures thereof,  
 an activity enhancing additive selected from the group consisting of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof, and  
 35      a carrier material edible to molluscs,

the mollusc stomach poison being effective to kill molluscs upon ingestion by molluscs.

40      17. The composition of claim 16, wherein the fertilizer is a granular fertilizer.

45      18. An ingestible molluscicidal composition, comprising:

a metal compound selected from the group consisting of ferric ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, ferrous ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, copper ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, zinc ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, aluminum ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, and mixtures thereof; and  
 a carrier material edible to molluscs.

50      19. The composition of claim 18, wherein the carrier material is a mollusc food.

55      20. The composition of claim 18, further comprising a co-active molluscicidal agent.

21. The composition of claim 20, wherein the co-active molluscicidal agent is selected from the group consisting of metaldehyde, methiocarb, carbaryl, isolan, mexcarbate, mercaptodimethur, niclosamide, trifemorph, carbofuran, anarcadic acid, plant-derived saponins, and mixtures thereof.

55      22. The composition of claim 18, wherein the metal is present in the metal compound at a concentration in the range of about 0.5 to 9.0 percent by wt. of the composition.

23. The composition of claim 18, further comprising a fertilizer material.

24. A method of exterminating unwanted mollusc pests, comprising the steps of:

- 5 providing a molluscicidal composition including  
a simple metal compound, including metals selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, zinc or aluminum and mixtures thereof,  
an activity enhancing additive selected from the group consisting of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, isomers of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, salts of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, metal complexes of ethylene diamine disuccinic acid and mixtures thereof, and  
10 a carrier material edible to molluscs;  
applying the molluscicidal composition to an area infested with molluscs; and  
allowing the molluscs to ingest the molluscicidal composition.

15 25. A method of exterminating unwanted mollusc pests, comprising the steps of:

- 20 providing a molluscicidal composition including  
a metal compound selected from the group consisting of ferric ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, ferrous ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, copper ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, zinc ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, aluminum ethylene diamine disuccinic acid, and  
mixtures thereof, and  
25 a carrier material edible to molluscs;  
applying the molluscicidal composition to an area infested with molluscs; and  
allowing the molluscs to ingest the molluscicidal composition.

25

#### Patentansprüche

- 30 1. Zusammensetzung für ein Fraßgift zur Bekämpfung von Mollusken, enthaltend  
eine einfache Metallverbindung, die Metalle aus der aus Eisen, Kupfer, Zink, Aluminium und deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe umfaßt;  
ein die Wirkung verbessерndes Additiv, ausgewählt aus der aus Ethyleniamindibernsteinsäure, Isomeren von Ethyleniamindibernsteinsäure, Salzen von Ethyleniamindibernsteinsäure, Metallkomplexen von Ethyleniamindibernsteinsäure und deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe und  
35 einen für Mollusken genießbaren Träger, wobei das Fraßgift zur Bekämpfung von Mollusken diese nach Aufnahme durch die Mollusken tötet.
- 40 2. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin das Salz von Ethyleniamindibernsteinsäure ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, die im wesentlichen besteht aus Alkalimetallsalzen, Erdalkalimetallsalzen, Ammoniumsalzen, substituierten Ammoniumsalzen und deren Gemischen.
- 45 3. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, die darüber hinaus einen zusätzlichen molluskicid wirkenden Bestandteil enthält.
4. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 3, worin der zusätzliche molluskicid wirkende Bestandteil ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Metaldehyd, Methiocarb, Carbaryl, Isolan, Mexcarbat, Mercaptodimethur, Niclosamid, Trifenmorph, Carbofuran, Anacardsäure, von Pflanzen abgeleitete Saponine und deren Gemische.
- 50 5. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, die darüber hinaus ein den pH-Wert regulierendes Mittel enthält.
6. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 5, worin das den pH-Wert regulierende Mittel ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Calciumcarbonat, Kaliumcarbonat, Kaliumhydroxid, Ascorbinsäure, Weinstinsäure und Zitronensäure.
- 55 7. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 5, worin der pH-Wert in einem Bereich von etwa 5 bis 9 liegt.
8. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin das Molverhältnis des Metalls zum Köder im Bereich von etwa 1:0,02 bis 1:58 liegt.

9. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin das Metall in einer einfachen Metallverbindung bei einer Konzentration im Bereich von etwa 200 bis 20.000 ppm vorliegt.
- 5 10. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin das die Aktivität vergrößernde Additiv in einer Konzentration im Bereich von etwa 0,2 bis 6,0 Gew.%, bezogen auf die Zusammensetzung, vorliegt.
11. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin der Träger ein Molluskennahrungsmittel ist.
- 10 12. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 11, worin das Molluskennahrungsmittel ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Weizenmehl, Weizengetreide, Agar, Gelatine, Ölkuchen, Tiernahrungsmittel-Weizen, Hafer, Mais, Zitronenmeische, Reis, Früchte, Fischnebenprodukte, Zucker, beschichtete Gemüsesamen, beschichtete Getreidesamen, Casein, Blutmehl, Knochenmehl, Hefe, Fette, Bierprodukte und deren Gemische.
- 15 13. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 11, worin das Molluskennahrungsmittel ein Gemisch aus Knochenmehl und Weizenmehl mit einem Verhältnis von Knochenmehl zu Weizenmehl im Bereich von 50:50 bis 90:10 ist.
- 20 14. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, worin die einfache Metallverbindung ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus reduziertem elementaren Eisen, Eisenproteinen, Eisensalzen, Eisenkohlenhydraten, Kupferproteinen, Kupfersalzen, Kupferkohlenhydraten, Zinkproteinen, Zinksalzen, Zinkkohlenhydraten, Aluminiumproteinen, Aluminiumsalzen, Aluminiumkohlenhydraten und deren Gemischen.
- 25 15. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 14, worin die einfache Metallverbindung ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe, bestehend aus Eisenacetat, Eisenchlorid, Eisenphosphat, einem Gemisch aus Eisenphosphat und Natriumcitrat, Natriumeisenphosphat, Eisenpyrophosphat, Eisennitrat, Eisenammoniumsulfat, Eisenalbuminat, Eisensulfat, Eisensulfid, Eisencholinat, Eisenglycerolphosphat, Eisencitrat, Eisenammoniumcitrat, Eisenfumarat, Eisengluconat, Eisenlactat, Eisensaccharat, Eisenfructat, Eisendextrat, Eisensuccinat, Eisenterat, Kupferacetat, Kupferchlorid, Kupferphosphat, Kupferpyrophosphat, Kupfernitrat, Kupferammoniumsulfat, Kupferalbuminat, Kupfersulfat, Kupfergluconat, Kupferlactat, Kupfersaccharat, Kupferfructat, Kupferdextrat, Zinkacetat, Zinkchlorid, Zinkphosphat, Zinkpyrophosphat, Zinknitrat, Zinkammoniumsulfat, Zinkaluminat, Zinksulfat, Zinkglukonat, Zinklaktat, Zinksaccharad, Zinkfructat, Zinkdextrat, Aluminiumacetat, Aluminiumchlorid, Aluminiumphosphat, Aluminiumpyrophosphat, Aluminiumnitrat, Aluminiumammoniumsulfat, Aluminiumaluminat, Aluminiumsulfat, Aluminiumglukonat, Aluminiumlaktat, Aluminiumsaccharat, Aluminiumfructat und Aluminiumdextrat.
- 30 16. Zusammensetzung, umfassend  
ein Düngemittel und  
eine umweltverträgliche molluskicide Zusammensetzung, die eine einfache Metallverbindung enthält, die ausgewählt ist aus der Gruppe bestehend aus Eisen, Kupfer, Zink oder Aluminium und deren Gemischen,  
einem die Wirkung vergrößernden Additiv, ausgewählt aus der aus Ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Isomeren von Ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Salzen von Ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Metallkomplexen von Ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure und deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe und  
einem für Mollusken verzehrbares Trägermaterial, wobei das Molluskenfraßgift nach Aufnahme durch die Mollusken diese tötet.
- 35 17. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 16, worin das Düngemittel ein kugelförmiges Düngemittel ist.
- 40 18. Ein Molluskenfraßgift, umfassend eine Metallverbindung, ausgewählt aus der aus Eisen(III)ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Eisen (II)ethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Kupferethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Zinkethyldiamindibernsteinsäure, Aluminiummethyldiamindibernsteinsäure und deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe, und  
ein von Mollusken verzehrbares Trägermaterial.
- 45 19. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 18, worin das Trägermaterial ein Molluskennahrungsmittel ist.
20. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 18, die ferner ein weiteres molluskicid wirkendes Mittel enthält.
- 50 21. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 20, worin das weitere molluskicid wirkende Mittel ausgewählt ist aus der aus Metaldehyd, Methiocarb, Carbaryl, Isolan, Mexcarbat, Mercaptodimethur, Niclosamid, Trifenmorph, Carbofuran, Anacardsäure, von Pflanzen abgeleiteten Saponinen und deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe.

22. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 18, worin das Metall in der Metallverbindung eine Konzentration im Bereich von etwa 0,5 bis 9,0 Gew.%, bezogen auf die Zusammensetzung, aufweist.
23. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 18, die zusätzlich ein Düngemittel enthält.
- 5 24. Verfahren zum Beseitigen von ungewollten molluskiden Schädlingen, umfassend die Stufen des Bereitstellen einer molluskiden Zusammensetzung, die eine einfache Metallverbindung umfaßt, welche ein Metall einschließt, das aus der aus Eisen, Kupfer, Zink oder Aluminium oder deren Gemischen bestehenden Gruppe ausgewählt ist, ein die Wirkung erhöhendes Additiv, ausgewählt aus der aus Ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Isomeren von Ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Salzen von Ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Metallkomplexen von Ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure und deren Gemischen gebildeten Gruppe, und einem für Mollusken verzehrbares Träger; Aufbringen der molluskiden Zusammensetzung auf eine von Mollusken befallene Fläche, um den Mollusken die Möglichkeit einzuräumen, die molluscide Zusammensetzung aufzunehmen.
- 10 25. Verfahren zur Beseitigung von ungewollten molluskiden Schädlingen, umfassend die Stufen des Bereitstellens einer molluskiden Zusammensetzung, enthaltend eine Metallverbindung, die aus der aus Eisen(III)ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Eisen(II)ethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Kupferethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Zinkethylendiamindibernsteinsäure, Aluminiummethylenedibernsteinsäure und deren Gemischen gebildeten Gruppe ausgewählt ist und
- 20 einem für Mollusken verzehrbares Träger, Aufbringen der molluskiden Zusammensetzung auf eine mit Mollusken befallene Fläche und Aufbringen der molluskiden Zusammensetzung auf eine von Mollusken befallene Fläche, um den Mollusken die Möglichkeit einzuräumen, die molluscide Zusammensetzung aufzunehmen.

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#### Revendications

1. Composition de poison par ingestion pour mollusques, constituée de :
  - 30 un composé métallique simple, comprenant les métaux choisis parmi le groupe consistant en le fer, le cuivre, le zinc, l'aluminium et leurs mélanges ; un additif augmentant l'activité choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les isomères de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les sels de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les complexes métalliques de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, et leurs mélanges, et
  - 35 un matériau support, comestible pour les mollusques, le poison par ingestion pour mollusques étant efficace pour tuer les mollusques lorsque ceux-ci l'ingèrent.
2. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le sel de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, est choisi parmi le groupe consistant essentiellement en les sels de métal alcalin, les sels de métal alcalino-terreux, les sels d'ammonium, les sels d'ammonium substitué et leurs mélanges.
- 40 3. Composition suivant la revendication 1, comprenant en outre, un ingrédient molluscicide coactif.
4. Composition suivant la revendication 3, dans laquelle l'ingrédient molluscicide coactif est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en le métaldéhyde, le méthiocarbe, le carbaryle, l'isolane, le mexcarbate, le mercaptodiméthur, le niclosamide, le trifénmorph, le carbofurane, l'acide anarcardique, les saponines dérivées de plantes et leurs mélanges.
- 45 5. Composition suivant la revendication 1, comprenant en outre, un agent ajustant le pH.
6. Composition suivant la revendication 5, dans laquelle l'agent ajustant le pH est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en le carbonate de calcium, le carbonate de potassium, l'hydroxyde de potassium, l'acide ascorbique, l'acide tartrique et l'acide citrique.
- 50 7. Composition suivant la revendication 5, dans laquelle le pH se situe dans l'intervalle allant d'environ 5 à 9.
8. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le rapport molaire du métal à l'additif d'appât se situe dans l'intervalle allant d'environ 1:0,02 à 1:58.

9. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le métal est présent dans le composé métallique simple à une concentration située dans l'intervalle allant d'environ 200 à 20 000 ppm.

5 10. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle l'additif augmentant l'activité est présent en une concentration située dans l'intervalle allant d'environ 0,2 à 0,6% en poids de la composition.

11. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le support est un aliment pour mollusque.

10 12. Composition suivant la revendication 11, dans laquelle l'aliment pour mollusque est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en la farine de blé, le blé, la gélose, la gélatine, le tourteau, le blé pour alimentation animale, le soya, l'avoine, le maïs, la mélasse d'agrumes, le riz, les fruits, des sous-produits de poisson, les sucres, des graines de légumes enrobées, des graines de céréales enrobées, la caséine, la farine de sang, la farine d'os, la levure, les graisses, des produits de brasserie et leurs mélanges.

15 13. Composition suivant la revendication 11, dans laquelle l'aliment pour mollusque est un mélange de farine d'os - farine de blé, présentant un rapport de la farine d'os à la farine de blé situé dans l'intervalle allant de 50:50 à 90:10.

20 14. Composition suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le composé métallique simple est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en le fer élémentaire réduit, les protéines de fer, les sels de fer, les hydrates de carbone de fer, les protéines de cuivre, les sels de cuivre, les hydrates de carbone de cuivre, les protéines de zinc, les sels de zinc, les hydrates de carbone de zinc, les protéines d'aluminium, les sels d'aluminium, les hydrates de carbone d'aluminium, et leurs mélanges.

25 15. Composition suivant la revendication 14, dans laquelle le composé métallique simple est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acétate de fer, le chlorure de fer, le phosphate de fer, un mélange phosphate de fer/citrate de sodium, le phosphate de sodium et de fer, le pyrophosphate de fer, le nitrate de fer, le sulfate d'ammonium et de fer, l'albuminate de fer, le sulfate de fer, le sulfure de fer, le citrate de choline et de fer, le phosphate de glycérol et de fer, le citrate de fer, le citrate d'ammonium et de fer, le fumarate de fer, le gluconate de fer, le lactate de fer, le saccharate de fer, le fructate de fer, le dextrate de fer, le succinate de fer, le tartrate de fer, l'acétate de cuivre, le chlorure de cuivre, le phosphate de cuivre, le pyrophosphate de cuivre, le nitrate de cuivre, le sulfate d'ammonium et de cuivre, l'albuminate de cuivre, le sulfate de cuivre, le gluconate de cuivre, le lactate de cuivre, le saccharate de cuivre, le fructate de cuivre, le dextrate de cuivre, l'acétate de zinc, le chlorure de zinc, le phosphate de zinc, le pyrophosphate de zinc, le nitrate de zinc, le sulfate d'ammonium et de zinc, l'albuminate de zinc, le sulfate de zinc, le gluconate de zinc, le lactate de zinc, le saccharate de zinc, le fructate de zinc, le dextrate de zinc, l'acétate d'aluminium, le chlorure d'aluminium, le phosphate d'aluminium, le pyrophosphate d'aluminium, le nitrate d'aluminium, le sulfate d'ammonium et d'aluminium, l'albuminate d'aluminium, le sulfate d'aluminium, le gluconate d'aluminium, le lactate d'aluminium, le saccharate d'aluminium, le fructate d'aluminium et le dextrate d'aluminium.

30 16. Composition comprenant :

40 un engrais, et  
une composition molluscicide compatible avec l'environnement, constituée de  
un composé métallique simple, comprenant les métaux choisis parmi le groupe consistant en le fer, le cuivre, le zinc, l'aluminium et leurs mélanges ;  
45 un additif augmentant l'activité choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les isomères de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les sels de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les complexes métalliques de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, et leurs mélanges, et  
un matériau support, comestible pour les mollusques, le poison par ingestion pour mollusques étant efficace pour tuer les mollusques lorsque ceux-ci l'ingèrent.

50 17. Composition suivant la revendication 16, dans laquelle l'engrais est un engrais en granulés.

18. Composition molluscicide par ingestion, constituée de :

55 un composé métallique choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique ferrique, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique ferreux, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique de cuivre, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique de zinc, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique d'aluminium et leurs mélanges, et un matériau support, comestible pour les mollusques.

19. Composition suivant la revendication 18, dans laquelle le matériau support est un aliment pour mollusques.
20. Composition suivant la revendication 18, comprenant en outre, un agent molluscicide coactif.
- 5 21. Composition suivant la revendication 20, dans laquelle l'agent molluscicide coactif est choisi parmi le groupe consistant en le métaldéhyde, le méthiocarbe, le carbaryle, l'isolane, le mexcarbate, le mercaptodiméthure, le niclosamide, le trifenmorph, le carbofurane, l'acide anarcardique, les saponines dérivées de plantes et leurs mélanges.
- 10 22. Composition suivant la revendication 18, dans laquelle le métal est présent dans le composé métallique en une concentration située dans l'intervalle allant d'environ 0,5 à 9,0% en poids de la composition.
23. Composition suivant la revendication 18, comprenant en outre, un engrais.
24. Procédé d'extermination des déprédateurs mollusques non souhaitées, comprenant les étapes consistant à :
- 15 fournir une composition molluscicide constituée de :
- 20 un composé métallique simple, comprenant les métaux choisis parmi le groupe consistant en le fer, le cuivre, le zinc, l'aluminium et leurs mélanges ;
- 25 un additif augmentant l'activité choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les isomères de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les sels de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, les complexes métalliques de l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique, et leurs mélanges, et un matériau support, comestible pour les mollusques, et appliquer la composition molluscicide sur une zone infestée de mollusques, et
- laisser les mollusques ingérer la composition molluscicide.
25. Procédé d'extermination des déprédateurs mollusques non souhaitées, comprenant les étapes consistant à :
- 30 fournir une composition molluscicide constituée de :
- 35 un composé métallique choisi parmi le groupe consistant en l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique ferrique, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique ferreux, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique de cuivre, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique de zinc, l'acide éthylènediaminedisuccinique d'aluminium et leurs mélanges, et un matériau support, comestible pour les mollusques, et appliquer la composition molluscicide sur une zone infestée de mollusques, et
- laisser les mollusques ingérer la composition molluscicide.

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